

## THE WASHINGTON ACCORD AND US LICENSING BOARDS

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## ABSTRACT

5 The Washington Accord known as a Mutual Recognition Agreement between national  
6 engineering regulatory bodies was signed in 1989 by six founding signatories. Through this  
7 Mutual Recognition Agreement the signatories recognize that the formal educational  
8 programmes accredited by the respective signatories are substantially equivalent. The stated  
9 objective of the Washington Accord is to ease the path of engineering graduates to professional  
10 registration or licencing in different jurisdictions. Since 1989 the signatories to the Washington  
11 Accord has increased three-fold with an additional five countries as currently provisional  
12 signatories. This rapid expansion is a reflection of the need for international recognition of  
13 educational qualifications and competency across borders in an increasingly globalized world.  
14 Engineering accreditation bodies, particularly in developing countries are proactively seeking  
15 recognition and mobility of their graduates. Within this context, the Washington Accord  
16 celebrates 25 years and charts a course for the next 25 years. This paper examines in detail the  
17 position of the US licensing boards on the Washington Accord. We conclude that with respect  
18 to US licensing boards the Washington Accord has made only modest inroads in its first 25 years  
19 and needs to set a much more ambitious path for the next 25 to achieve truly reciprocal mobility.

**Keywords:** Education & training, Accreditation, Professional Qualifications, Washington Accord

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## 31 INTRODUCTION

32 Prados et al (2005) provided an excellent and concise background to the development of  
33 engineering accreditation and professional licensure in the United States. Although the legal  
34 regulation of engineering practice dates back to 1907 with the passage of the Wyoming Law,  
35 accreditation of engineering programmes in the US is reported only to have really gained  
36 momentum after 1929 following the “Wickenden Report”. The Engineers’ Council for  
37 Professional Development (EPCD) was set up in 1932 to implement the recommendations of  
38 the Report. This ultimately led to the formation of the Accreditation Board for Engineering  
39 and Technology, Inc. (ABET), a non-governmental organization that accredits post-secondary  
40 education programs in applied science, computing, engineering, and engineering technology. A  
41 comprehensive history of the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying  
42 (NCEES) also covers these aspects of engineering accreditation and professional licensure  
43 (NCEES 2004)

44 Uziak et al (2014) also described accreditation as a fundamental quality assurance  
45 mechanism for engineering education and as an important step for international benchmarking  
46 and particularly important for graduates of developing countries. Prados et al (2005) examined  
47 the role of accreditation in facilitating global professional mobility of engineers and conclude that  
48 ABET, through instruments such as; mutual recognition agreements, assistance in the  
49 development of leader accreditation processes and systems; and, substantial equivalency  
50 evaluations has emerged as a leader in providing a useful framework for evaluating equivalence  
51 of diverse engineering credentials.

52 The International Engineering Alliance (2014a) presented a history (in the interest of  
53 brevity not restated here) of the Washington Accord, one of three agreements covering mutual  
54 recognition of tertiary-level qualifications in engineering. The Washington Accord  
55 recognizes the substantial equivalency of programs accredited by the signatories and  
56 recommends that graduates of programs accredited by any of the signatories is recognized by the  
57 other signatories. Hanrahan (2014) articulated the stated objective of the Washington Accord by  
58 the founding signatories as

59 *The founding signatories, convinced that their standards and processes were comparable, agreed  
60 to recognise each other’s accredited programmes. The objective was to ease the path of graduates  
61 to professional registration or licencing in different jurisdictions.*

62 This objective of the founding signatories of the Washington Accord resonates with the  
63 view held by Uziak et al (2014) who asserted that accreditation by any signatory to the  
64 Washington Accord guarantees international recognition. However Lucena et al (2008)

65 previously acknowledged that the increased mobility of engineers creates difficult challenges to  
66 country-based systems. Hanrahan (2007) recognized that in several countries, the registering and  
67 accrediting bodies are distinct – the United States being one such country. Hanrahan (2007)  
68 further asserted that under the Washington Accord, the signatories of such countries undertake  
69 to ensure that the separate registering body – in the case of the United States the various  
70 licensing boards - accept the accredited programmes of other signatories. Leon H. Clary, P.E.,  
71 L.S in his President's Report—1995 (NCEES, 2004) elaborates that in many countries education,  
72 experience and licensure are under one organization whereas in the United States these are  
73 under three organizations. Clary (NCEES, 2004) is of the opinion that the Washington Accord  
74 only addresses education and that it is a misconception that the Washington Accord relates in  
75 any way to the licensure process.

76 The founding signatories in 1989 to the Washington Accord were national engineering  
77 institutions from Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United  
78 States. Subsequently additional signatories have been added which include professional  
79 institutions from; Hong Kong China, South Africa, Japan, Singapore, Korea, Chinese Taipei,  
80 Malaysia, Turkey, Russia with Sri Lanka and India as the new signatories admitted in 2014. There  
81 are a number of national institutions with provisional signatory status. Uziak et al (2014)  
82 affirmed international recognition is becoming increasingly important for graduates in  
83 developing countries which could explain the growing list of signatories to the Washington  
84 Accord.

85 An important point of note is that the UK and Ireland are the only two European  
86 signatories to the Washington Accord – a point also emphasized by Prichard (2013).

87 The National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE, 2007) presented a lively  
88 historical account of the beginnings of licensure – stemming from a water resources and  
89 irrigation problem. NSPE (2007) noted that by 1984 all state licensing boards were administering  
90 the Fundamentals of Engineering and Principles and Practice of Engineering examinations – a  
91 process that NSPE (2007) report started in 1920. This is relevant to this paper because in many  
92 ways the current position of the state licensing boards with regards to Mutual Recognition  
93 Agreements - including the Washington Accord is similar to the position of state licensing  
94 boards to each other's licenses (reciprocity) of the 1920s.

95 Prados et al (2005) identify as a valid future research question "*How transferable are*  
96 *accreditation criteria and processes across national borders?*". Anwar and Richards (2013) test in-part the  
97 research question posed by Prados et al (2005) and report on one particular case at the  
98 University of Southampton UK seeking ABET accreditation where educational outcomes and

99 course duration conflicted. The motivation for the current paper is that as the Washington  
100 Accord celebrates its 25 years, (International Engineering Alliance 2014a) this critical discourse is  
101 timely and necessary. With more provisional signatories to the Washington Accord awaiting full  
102 signatory status it is important that the Washington Accord (and other mutual recognition  
103 agreements) is fit for purpose and serve the professional engineering community for the next 25  
104 years taking forward the foresight and vision of the founding signatories. The International  
105 Engineering Alliance (2014b) charts the role for Washington Accord's Role for the next 25 years  
106 as "*Graduate mobility and recognition through global standards and best practice in accreditation*" hence it is  
107 important to understand the constraints to graduate mobility and how these may be overcome.

108 Phillips et al (2000) described the Washington Accord as a mechanism by which  
109 signatories mutually recognize first professional or basic engineering education – although this is  
110 debateable in the case of the UK and Ireland signatories as these two signatories have included  
111 only their integrated masters (MEng) degrees. Phillips et al (2000) further and quite correctly  
112 stated that the licensing and registration bodies are not bound by this agreement. With most  
113 signatories of the Washington Accord, the signatory is also the licensing and registration body.  
114 However in the US the signatory to the Washington Accord is ABET which is an accreditation  
115 body. In the US licensing and registration bodies are US state licensing boards. In this paper the  
116 authors expand the scope of Anwar and Richards (2013) and examine in particular the position  
117 of each of professional engineering licensing boards in the US to the educational qualifications  
118 covered under Washington Accord.

## 119 MATERIALS AND METHODS

120 The methodology adopted in this research is a detailed review of the  
121 statutes/rules in fifty two of the professional engineering licensing boards in the US states and  
122 territories as listed in Table 1. In addition to this, materials used in this research included,  
123 NCEES Model Law and NCEES Model Rules, ASCE Policy Statements, ABET rules,  
124 Engineering Alliance documentation (which covers all the Mutual Recognition Agreements  
125 including the Washington Accord) and other literature as cited in this research paper.  
126

## 127 ANALYSIS

### 128 Licensing Board Statutes and Regulations

129 For professional licensure applicants who hold an ABET accredited undergraduate  
130 engineering degree, almost all state licensing boards accept this degree as fulfilling the  
131 educational requirements of an "approved degree". For applicants who hold non-ABET

132 accredited degree (which includes most non-US/foreign degrees), most state licensing boards in  
133 this category require that applicants who hold these credentials/qualifications are evaluated by a  
134 third party as shown in Table 1. The majority of state licensing boards require applicants to  
135 submit their credentials and/or qualifications to the National Council of Examiners for  
136 Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) for evaluation. Some state licensing boards do not specify  
137 NCEES for evaluation but rather require non-ABET degrees to be evaluated by a board  
138 approved organization. A minority of state licensing boards e.g. Arizona Board of Technical  
139 Registration, Idaho Board of Licensure of Professional Engineers and Surveyors, North Carolina  
140 Board of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors also accept evaluation of non-ABET  
141 accredited credentials/qualifications from evaluation agencies other than NCEES e.g. American  
142 Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO)

143 The Illinois Board of Professional Engineers/Department of Financial and Professional  
144 Regulation is the sole exception to the rule of universal acceptance of ABET accredited degrees  
145 by state licensing board. The Illinois Board states “*....shall take into consideration but not be bound by  
146 accreditation by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology....*” although the Illinois rules  
147 further state “*....furthermore upon the recommendation of the Board, has determined that domestic  
148 baccalaureate degree engineering programs accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET  
149 meet the minimum criteria set forth in subsection (a) for an approved engineering program*”. Interestingly  
150 Illinois has withdrawn approval for a number of programs from US institutions which have been  
151 approved by ABET.

152 It is noteworthy that the Illinois Board rules state that foreign engineering degrees *approved* by  
153 ABET would also need to be evaluated by NCEES. ABET has in the past determined foreign  
154 degrees as ‘substantially equivalent’. ABET’s substantial equivalency programme is obsolete and  
155 has been superseded by ABET’s international accreditation programme. ABET now undertakes  
156 international accreditation of non-US institutions. However ABET does not specifically approve  
157 programmes. If the Illinois board use the word *approved* synonymously with *substantial*  
158 *equivalency* then Illinois rules seem to require updating. Alternatively, if Illinois board uses the  
159 word “*approved*” synonymously with “*accredited*” then interestingly the Illinois board draws a  
160 distinction between ABET non-US accredited degrees and ABET US accredited degrees.  
161 Although perhaps a slightly moot point since ABET has withdrawn its substantial equivalency  
162 programme, Illinois Board Rule 38.VIIIb 138.210 c) 3) states

163 *The Division, upon the recommendation of the Board, does not recognize ABET "substantially  
164 equivalent" programs as meeting the minimum criteria set forth in subsection (a) for an approved engineering  
165 program and are, therefore, not approved.*

166 For foreign engineering degrees, the Board of Professional Engineers, New Hampshire, Rule  
167 303.01 (b) (1) states

168 *Applicants possessing a 4-year EAC/ABET equivalent, foreign engineering degree which consists of an*  
169 *engineering program which has a successful ABET site visit shall have 4 years engineering experience*  
170 *satisfactory to the board;*

171 Rule 303.01 (b) (1) presumably applies to ABET's substantial equivalency programme which is  
172 now obsolete and has been superseded by ABET's international accreditation programme. For  
173 foreign engineering (non-ABET accredited) graduates the New Hampshire Board Rule 303.01  
174 (b) (5) requires the degree to be evaluated by NCEES and if the degree is deemed favourable,  
175 the graduate must then fulfil 8 years of qualifying experience to be eligible for professional  
176 licensure. In contrast for graduates of an ABET accredited engineering programme, the  
177 requirement is 4 years of qualifying experience. This rule is not unique to the New Hampshire  
178 Board alone, rather the majority of state licensing boards require 8 years of qualifying experience  
179 for foreign engineering (non-ABET accredited) graduates.

180 The Pennsylvania State Registration Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors  
181 and Geologists Rule 49 § 37.31 a 1 iv) states *Graduation from a foreign undergraduate or graduate, or*  
182 *both, engineering curriculum that was substantially equivalent to an ABET-accredited curriculum, as shown by*  
183 *an evaluation of the candidate's credentials by NCEES's credentials evaluation division.* It is interesting to  
184 note that although the Washington Accord's very purpose is to establish substantial equivalency  
185 of programmes accredited by the signatories, the Pennsylvania Board as with most other  
186 licensing board still require the credentials to be evaluated by NCEES.

187 The Tennessee Board of Architectural and Engineering Examiners accepts undergraduate  
188 engineering degrees accredited by ABET or those that have been determined to be substantially  
189 equivalent to an ABET accredited degree. Again this refers to the now obsolete ABET  
190 substantial equivalency programme.

191 Only a very small number of state licensing boards explicitly acknowledge the Washington  
192 Accord in their statutes and rules. State licensing boards that fall into this category are the; Texas  
193 Board of Professional Engineers, the Idaho Board of Licensure of Professional Engineers and  
194 Professional Land Surveyors and, South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and  
195 Regulation. This minority group of licensing boards considers any degree covered by the  
196 Washington Accord as an acceptable qualification towards the educational eligibility  
197 requirements for licensure.

198 This throws up a unique anomaly with respect to the European signatories namely the  
199 UK and Ireland, of the Washington Accord. Anwar and Richards (2013) established that for the

200 UK only MEng degrees are covered under the Washington Accord, UK BEng degrees are not  
201 recognized by the Washington Accord, this was restated by Prichard (2013) who as Chief  
202 Executive Officer of the Engineering Council (UK) is a significant authority on the subject.  
203 Engineers Ireland the second European signatory to the Washington Accord explicitly state that  
204 “.....*programmes listed under Chartered Engineer meet the Washington Accord.....*”, Engineers Ireland  
205 (2014). For Ireland just as with the UK, programmes that meet the educational requirements for  
206 a Chartered Engineer and hence the Washington Accord are master level programmes known  
207 colloquially as MEng programmes. Hence by inference, the Texas, Idaho and South Carolina  
208 Boards will only accept European MEng degrees as an acceptable qualifications towards the  
209 eligibility requirements for licensure. This is reinforced by the fact that many state licensing  
210 boards require an undergraduate engineering curriculum to be of 4 years in duration, and also  
211 that ABET require an engineering degree to be 4 years in duration, (ABET 2011). These  
212 licensing boards do not give credit for the UK master level qualification beyond that of the US  
213 Bachelors qualification i.e. they are considered on par. In contrast, most licensing boards  
214 explicitly give credit (in the form of reducing work experience requirements) to candidates who  
215 hold an ABET accredited master degree. The anomaly of UK engineering degrees and the  
216 Washington Accord is even more complicated with engineering bachelor degrees from Scotland.  
217 Although Scotland is part of the UK an engineering bachelor degree in Scotland is four years in  
218 duration as opposed to the three year duration in England and Wales. However as the signatory  
219 to the Washington Accord the UK Engineering Council which represents the entire UK (which  
220 includes Scotland), hence engineering bachelor degrees from Scotland are also not recognized by  
221 ABET under the Accord. With all other (non-European) Washington Accord signatories, it is  
222 the bachelor qualifications that are considered comparable to the US bachelor qualification and  
223 as acceptable qualifications towards the eligibility requirements for licensure.

224 The Minnesota Administrative Rules (2014) do not make explicit reference to the  
225 Washington Accord, but a UK Chartered Engineer (CEng) under Rule 1800.2800 (B) would be  
226 exempt from the requirement of passing the Fundamentals-of-Engineering (FE) Examination.  
227 The New Mexico (NM) Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers & Professional Surveyors  
228 does not recognize any mutual recognition agreements. Under the 2012 NM Engineering and  
229 Surveying Practice Act - Section 61-23-14.1, an engineer licensed in a foreign country who can  
230 demonstrate the license was obtained based on standards at least equal to that those required by  
231 the 2012 NM Engineering and Surveying Practice Act, and can demonstrate competence may be  
232 licensed by endorsement. The North Dakota State Board of Registration for Professional  
233 Engineers & Land Surveyors, Iowa Professional Licensing Bureau and Rhode Island State

234 Division of Design Professionals, have a similar position on engineers with registration to  
235 practice in a foreign (non-US) country to that of the New Mexico.

236 A number of licensing boards recognize degrees accredited by the Canadian Engineering  
237 Accreditation Board as fulfilling the educational requirements for professional licensure. The  
238 Illinois Board recognizes the “.....*Mutual Recognition Program agreement between ABET and the*  
239 *Canadian Engineering Accrediting Board (CEAB) of the Canadian Council of Professional Engineers (CCPE)*  
240 *is considered to have met the minimum criteria as equivalent to the ABET accredited programs and are, therefore,*  
241 *approved, subject to review.*” The Illinois Board does not explicitly recognize the Washington Accord.  
242 The Mississippi Board, South Carolina Board, South Dakota Board, Utah Division of  
243 Occupational and Professional Licensing have a similar position on programmes accredited by  
244 the Canadian Engineering Accrediting Board to the Illinois Board. This is noteworthy because  
245 Canada is a signatory of the Washington Accord, hence degrees accredited by Engineers Canada  
246 are recognized by US licensing boards either by explicit reference in board rules and statutes and  
247 additionally where applicable by recognition of the Washington Accord. It is also interesting to  
248 note that there are more state licensing boards that acknowledge the Canadian Engineering  
249 Accreditation Board rather than the Washington Accord.

250

## 251 **NCEES Model Law and Model Rule and ASCE Policy Statement 465**

252 The stated aim of the NCEES Model Law (NCEES 2013a) is to assist legislative  
253 counsels in preparing new laws or amendments to existing laws. The proportion of the NCEES  
254 Model Law that is adapted into state licensing board statutes varies and is difficult to quantify.  
255 Some state licensing boards have adopted verbatim sections from the NCEES Model Law,  
256 whereas others paraphrase the NCEES Model Law. What is clear however is that the NCEES  
257 Model Law does bear significant influence on state licensing board statutes. The Model Law  
258 makes no reference to the Washington Accord or indeed any Mutual Recognition Agreement.  
259 NCEES Model Rules (NCEES 2013b) 230.10.A.2 only refers to foreign qualifications deemed  
260 substantially equivalent by the licensing board to an EAC/ABET accredited degree. As we have  
261 discussed in the previous paragraph, most licensing boards delegate the task of establishing  
262 equivalency to the NCEES Credentials Evaluation service.

263 As the Washington Accord looks towards the next 25 years, the Accord needs to be  
264 cognizant of the implications of ASCE Policy Statement 465 (ASCE 2014b) which states that the  
265 ....*attainment of an engineering body of knowledge for entry into the practice of engineering at the professional*  
266 *level, i.e., practice as a licensed professional engineer, through appropriate engineering education and*  
267 *experience..... which would require a combination of:*

268       • *a baccalaureate degree in engineering;*  
269       • *a master's degree in engineering,.....*

270 The recommended time frame stated by ASCE Policy Statement 465 for this 'raising the bar' is  
271 no earlier than 2020. The NCEES Model Law (NCEES 2013a) also incorporates the  
272 requirement of a candidate seeking professional licensure to have an engineering master level  
273 qualification. Although the NCEES Model Law recommends this law to come into effect from  
274 January 1, 2020 the footnote acknowledges that the implementation may vary between  
275 jurisdictions and recommend an eight year period for implementation. The implementation of  
276 Policy Statement 465 into licensure statutes is by no means a foregone conclusion. Walker (2012)  
277 describes there are two cultures of engineering – the professional independence interest versus  
278 the business interest with strong arguments presented by the proponents and opponents.  
279 Richards et al (2011) examines the sentiments of business owners, university professors and  
280 state licensing boards towards ASCE Policy Statement 465. Importantly in the context of this  
281 paper is the sentiment of licensing boards towards Policy Statement 465 and Richards et al  
282 (2011) find that 46% of state licensing board chairs' support and 38% oppose ASCE Policy  
283 Statement 465 – with 16% undecided. The support from licensing board chairs is lower than of  
284 academic leaders at 60%, but higher than that of American Council of Engineering Companies  
285 (business leaders) at 16%. Hence whether or not ASCE Policy Statement 465 finds its way into  
286 the statutes of state licensing boards remains an open question.

287       ASCE Policy Statement 465 may not pose a particular problem for most European  
288 masters degrees. In fact at the time of writing this paper three institutions in Spain and one in  
289 Germany hold ABET accredited engineering master programmes. Hence it can be envisaged that  
290 the Washington Accord could be amended to cover the European engineering master degree –  
291 however the issue of European bachelor degree described earlier remains. ASCE Policy  
292 Statement 465 may pose a challenge for the UK and Ireland where an engineering master  
293 programme is one calendar year (3 semesters in duration) rather than more typical two academic  
294 years (4 semesters). ASCE Policy Statement 465 qualifies the requirement of a master degree as  
295 no less than 30 credits. In the UK a typical engineering master degree is 90 ECTS (European  
296 Credit and Transfer System). Hence the debate could become one of conversion between these  
297 two credit systems.

298

## 299 **Conclusions and Recommendations**

300       This research paper shows that despite 25 years of the Washington Accord, the majority  
301 of state licensing boards in the USA do not explicitly acknowledge mutual recognition

302 agreements entered into by the various national bodies responsible for accrediting national  
303 engineering degree programmes. In the US almost without exception, all state licensing boards  
304 require any engineer with a non-US engineering degree to obtain evaluation of their degree. The  
305 agency of choice for most state licensing boards for the evaluation of foreign (non-US)  
306 credentials is the NCEES.

307 A small minority of state licensing boards do acknowledge the Washington Accord and  
308 accept an engineering degree obtained from a Washington Accord signatory country as fulfilling  
309 the educational requirements towards professional licensure. This in fact is the starting point for  
310 signatories of the Washington Accord, if this accord is to be relevant and a useful instrument  
311 that (paraphrasing from the objective stated by the founding signatories) *is to ease the path of*  
312 *graduates to professional registration or licencing in different jurisdictions.* The signatories of the Washington  
313 Accord need to use as exemplars to the Texas Board of Professional Engineers, Idaho Board of  
314 Licensure of Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors and South Carolina State  
315 Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors for other state licensing boards  
316 to recognize the Washington Accord and include it in their statutes/rules. Another exemplar is  
317 the Illinois Board of Professional Engineers/Department of Financial and Professional  
318 Regulation which also recognizes a Mutual Recognition Agreement – albeit that between ABET  
319 and the Canadian Engineering Accrediting Board (CEAB). A “low-hanging fruit” for the  
320 signatories of the Washington Accord would hence be the Illinois Board. Here it would be a case  
321 of making a case that the Illinois Board include a second Mutual Recognition Agreement –  
322 namely the Washington Accord in its rules. In addition the signatories of the Washington Accord  
323 should seek to include reference to this Accord (and possibly other Mutual Recognition  
324 Agreements) into the NCEES Model Law and Model Rules.

325 For the European signatories of the Washington Accord namely; UK and Ireland there is  
326 an additional challenge as the Bachelor (BEng) degree is specifically excluded from the  
327 Washington Accord. Interestingly should Scotland have achieved independence following a  
328 positive endorsement of the referendum on this question, Scotland’s four year engineering  
329 bachelor degree would fulfil the ABET requirements with educational outcomes being  
330 substantially similar to engineering bachelor degree from England, Wales and Northern Ireland.  
331 As it stands for the UK, the Washington Accord only recognizes the integrated master (MEng)  
332 degree. The ABET website states (ABET 2014a) *Graduates of programs based in the United Kingdom*  
333 *and Russia: Please email ABET's International Relations Manager to determine if the program you graduated*  
334 *from is recognized by the Washington Accord*, whereas for almost all other signatory countries a simple  
335 checklist is provided. This lack of clarity does not sit comfortably with the role identified for the

336 Washington Accord over the next 25 years of graduate mobility and recognition. Based on the  
337 evidence presented in this paper, the authors are of the opinion that the impasse here is that  
338 European bachelor degrees are of 3-year duration whereas outside of Europe (including the US)  
339 bachelor degrees are of 4-year duration. Perhaps then the only solution is for a European  
340 engineering graduate is to accept that a European bachelor degree in engineering does not fulfil  
341 the educational requirements towards professional licensure in the US and such graduates should  
342 expect to take additional courses/credits.

343 The signatories to the Washington Accord need have contingency plans should the  
344 minimum educational requirement for licensure become a master of engineering degree enter the  
345 statutes of licensing boards in 2020 or thereafter. The International Engineering Alliance need to  
346 be cognizant of a fast changing world in which individual institutions are becoming more  
347 international and may overtake the International Engineering Alliance. Since ABET started  
348 offering accreditation services outside the United States in 2007, 365 academic programs at 72  
349 institutions in 23 other nations have achieved ABET accreditation. NCEES has changed the  
350 Fundamentals of Engineering examination to a computer based test delivered through Pearson  
351 VUE test centers. NCEES offers examinations internationally in; Canada, Egypt; Sharjah; Japan;  
352 Korea; Saudi Arabia and Turkey. Furthermore Saudi Arabia rather than becoming a signatory to  
353 any Mutual Recognition Agreement for its own territorial degrees has adopted the US model of  
354 ABET Accreditation and PE licensure. It is in this fast moving environment that the  
355 International Engineering Alliance needs to ensure that its instruments such as Mutual  
356 Recognition Agreements remain relevant. The alternative model is that institutions from  
357 signatory countries such as Engineers Canada 'go-it-alone' and obtain explicit recognition in state  
358 licensing boards and statutes which would certainly render mutual recognition agreements less  
359 relevant in the US.

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Table 1: Professional Engineering Boards reviewed

	US state or territory	Non-US educational qualification
1	Alabama	NCEES evaluation
2	Alaska	Not specified
3	Arizona	NCEES evaluation and others
4	Arkansas	Not specified
5	California	NCEES evaluation
6	Colorado	Not specified
7	Connecticut	NCEES evaluation
8	Delaware	Board evaluation
9	District of Columbia	NCEES evaluation
10	Florida	NCEES, Joseph Silny & Associates evaluation
11	Georgia	NCEES evaluation
12	Guam	NCEES evaluation
13	Hawaii	Board evaluation
14	Idaho	NCEES, AACRAO evaluation
15	Illinois	NCEES evaluation
16	Indiana	NCEES evaluation
17	Iowa	Board evaluation
18	Kansas	Evaluate by Board approved organization
19	Kentucky	NCEES evaluation
20	Louisiana	Board approved organization
21	Maine	NCEES evaluation
22	Maryland	Evaluate by Board approved organization
23	Massachusetts	NCEES evaluation
24	Michigan	Board evaluation
25	Minnesota	NCEES evaluation
26	Mississippi	NCEES evaluation
27	Missouri	Not specified
28	Montana	Evaluate by Board approved organization
29	Nebraska	NCEES evaluation
30	Nevada	NCEES evaluation
31	New Hampshire	NCEES evaluation
32	New Jersey	Not specified
33	New Mexico	Board evaluation
34	New York	Board evaluation
35	North Carolina	NCEES, AACRAO
36	North Dakota	Board evaluation
37	Ohio	NCEES evaluation
38	Oklahoma	NCEES evaluation
39	Oregon	NCEES evaluation
40	Pennsylvania	NCEES evaluation
41	Puerto Rico*	
42	Rhode Island	Board evaluation
43	South Carolina	Board evaluation
44	South Dakota	NCEES evaluation
45	Tennessee	Evaluate by Board approved organization
46	Texas	Evaluate by Board approved organization
47	Utah	NCEES evaluation

48	Vermont	NCEES evaluation
49	Virginia	Board evaluation
50	Virgin Islands	Board evaluation
51	Washington	NCEES evaluation
52	West Virginia	Evaluate by Board approved organization
53	Wisconsin	Board evaluation
54	Wyoming	NCEES evaluation

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